

# Prevention Needs Assessment Profile for Cass County

### County Population Characteristics

2000 Total Population: 82,092  
 2000 Population Age 17 and Younger: 23,307  
 2000 Racial/Ethnic Composition:  
 White 95.6% Other 3.0%  
 Black 1.4% Hispanic/Latino (any race) 2.2%

Source: 2000 U.S. Census.



### Risk Constructs (indicators comprising construct)

#### Alcohol and Drug Abuse

**Substance abuse-related morbidity/mortality**  
 (alcohol and drug-related hospital discharge and death rates)

**Liquor law violations** (adult and juvenile arrest rates for liquor law violations, adult DUI arrest rate)

**Driving while impaired** (percent vehicle accidents in which alcohol/drugs were a factor)

**Drug possession**  
 (adult and juvenile arrest rates for drug possession)

**Substance abuse treatment admissions**  
 (adult and juvenile treatment admission rates)

#### Community Disorganization and Transition

**Lack of civic involvement** (percent unregistered voters, percent population who did not vote in presidential elections)

**Community instability** (percent persons moving from outside county)

**Community transition and mobility** (percent renter occupied housing, percent persons moving within county, percent vacant housing units)

**Divorces** (divorce rate)

#### High Risk Demographic Subgroups

**Young males** (percent population male aged 15 to 34)

**Urban environment** (population density, percent population living in urban areas)

#### Community Crime

**Crime and violence** (adult and juvenile arrest rates for violent, property, and other non-alcohol and drug-related crime)

#### Poverty

**Socioeconomic deprivation** (total and child poverty rates, unemployment rate, percent population receiving TANF, percent single parent households, median income,<sup>1</sup> percent adults without a high school education)

#### Alcohol and Drug Availability/Accessibility

**Alcohol and drug availability** (liquor outlets per 1,000 persons, miles to nearest interstate highway)<sup>1</sup>

**Drug manufacturing** (arrest rate for drug manufacturing)

#### Poor Academic Performance/Commitment to School

**Academic failure** (percent graduates below national ACT score average)

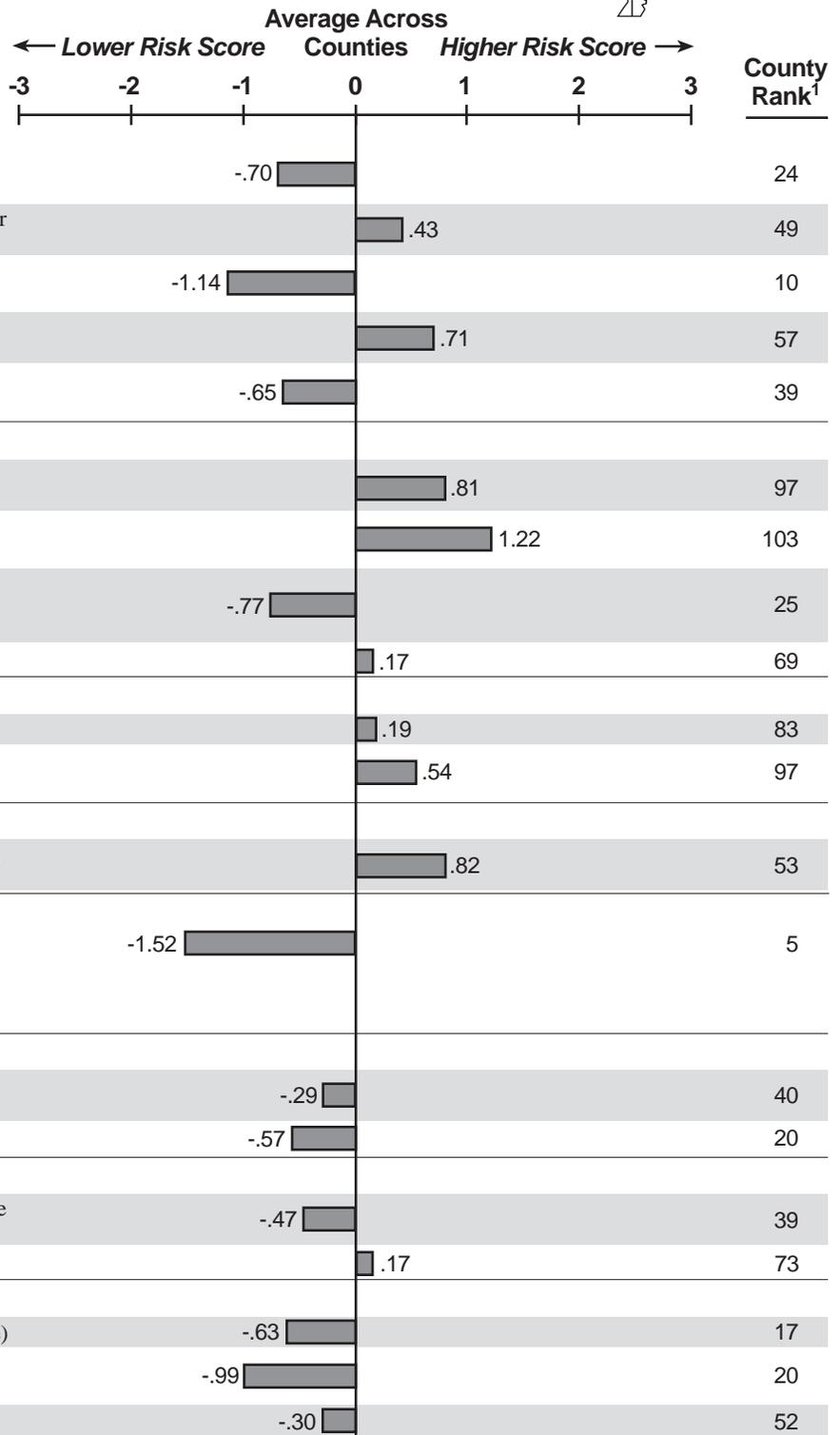
**Lack of commitment to school** (dropout rate)

#### Problems Indirectly Associated with Substance Abuse

**Child abuse and neglect** (child abuse and neglect referral rate)

**Births to teenage mothers** (rate of births to females ages 15 to 19)

**Sexually transmitted disease** (STD, HIV, and AIDS rates)



Note: See Appendix B for actual indicator values across available years.

**Overall County Rank<sup>4</sup> 46**

<sup>1</sup>Each risk score is ranked in relation to other county scores based on the following: 1=lowest risk; 63=highest risk for *drug manufacturing construct*; 64=highest risk for *liquor law violations, drug possession, and crime and violence constructs*; 115=highest risk for non-arrest constructs.

<sup>2</sup>Median income and miles to nearest interstate highway were reverse coded so that higher scores were indicative of higher risk.

<sup>3</sup>Unreliable due to nonreporting by agencies participating in the Uniform Crime Report. See Appendix A for details.

<sup>4</sup>Overall county rank is based on the average of all 20 risk scores, equally ranked. 1=lowest risk; 115=highest risk.